

# Buckle Me Up

properly. That's the law.

For more  
information  
regarding child  
passenger safety  
or to learn how  
to properly  
install your child  
safety seat, call  
1-800-KID-N-CAR.



***click it  
or TICKET***

[www.in.gov/cji](http://www.in.gov/cji)

Governor's Council on  
Impaired & Dangerous Driving

a division of the  INDIANA  
CRIMINAL  
JUSTICE  
INSTITUTE



## ATTENTION PARENTS!

Did you know that nearly 90% of child safety seats are misused?

Call 1-800-KID-N-CAR to schedule an appointment to have your car seat checked.

### INFANTS – up to one year old and 20 pounds.

Infants must ride rear-facing up to at least one year of age and at least 20-22 pounds to support the weak back and neck in a crash.

- Never position in front of an airbag.
- Use harness slots that are at or below shoulder level.
- If your baby reaches 20 pounds before one year of age, move to a larger seat that is crash tested up to 30-35 pounds rear-facing.
- Never add extra padding to harness or behind child's head or back.
- If your child safety seat has a carrying handle, always travel with the handle down.

### TODDLERS – over age one and up to 40 pounds.

At one year of age and at least 20 pounds, toddlers ride forward-facing in a convertible seat or combination car seat/booster, using the harness up to 40 pounds.

- Move convertible seat to upright position.
- Harness straps must be moved to top slot in convertible seat or at or above shoulder level in a combination car seat/booster.
- A five-point harness is recommended

### CHILDREN - over 40 pounds.

Children who are over 40 pounds should ride in a booster seat up to 80 pounds to help properly position seat belt and provide added height for the child.

- Use only with a lap and shoulder belt (call 800-424-9393 if your vehicle only has lap belts).
- Always use a high-back vs. backless booster if your vehicle has no head restraints.
- Children under 13 should always ride in the back seat if your vehicle has a passenger-side air bag.

### ALWAYS REMEMBER

- Child safety seat harness must be snug, with only one finger width of space between the child's collarbone and the harness.
- Child safety seat chest clip must be positioned at armpit level and threaded to look the same on both sides.
- Vehicle safety belt must be routed through the appropriate seatbelt path and tightened so there is less than one-inch movement when child safety seat is pulled from side-to-side or front-to-back. Put your adult weight in the seat while tightening the seat belt.
- Always read your vehicle owner's manual and child safety seat instructions.
- The middle of the back seat is generally the safest place for a child who is in a child safety seat with a harness. Once a child outgrows the harness, he/she should be moved to a booster seat that is used with a lap and shoulder belt.

### INDIANA LAW:

- Children under 4 years of age must be properly transported in a child safety seat that meets federal safety standards.
- Children ages 4-12 must be in a child safety seat or vehicle seat belt.

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